

U.S. FIRE ADMINISTRATION AND FIRE GRANT PROGRAMS REAUTHORIZATION: EXAMINING EFFECTIVENESS AND PRIORITIES

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Subcommittee on Research and Technology held a hearing entitled “U.S. Fire Administration and Fire Grant Programs Reauthorization: Examining Effectiveness and Priorities”. Testimony was heard from Denis Onieal, Acting Administrator, United States Fire Administration; Gavin Horn, Research Program Director, Illinois Fire Service Institute; H. “Butch” Browning, Jr., State Fire Marshall, Louisiana; John Sinclair, Fire Chief, Kittitas Valley Fire and Rescue, Washington; and public witnesses.

HELP OR HINDRANCE? A REVIEW OF SBA'S OFFICE OF THE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

Committee on Small Business: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Help or Hindrance? A Review of SBA's Office of the Chief Information Officer”. Testimony was heard from Maria Roat, Chief Information Officer, Small Business Administration.

IMPLEMENTING THE FEDERAL ASSETS SALE AND TRANSFER ACT (FASTA): MAXIMIZING TAXPAYER RETURNS AND REDUCING WASTE IN REAL ESTATE

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management held a hearing entitled “Implementing the Federal Assets Sale and Transfer Act (FASTA): Maximizing Taxpayer Returns and Reducing Waste in Real Estate”. Testimony was heard from Tim Horne, Acting Administrator, General Services Administration; Brett Simms, Director, Capital Asset Management Service, Department of Veterans Affairs; Kevin B. Acklin, Chief of Staff, Office of Mayor William Peduto, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; and a public witness.

CARE WHERE IT COUNTS: ASSESSING VA'S CAPITAL ASSET NEEDS

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Care Where It Counts: Assessing VA's Capital Asset Needs”. Testimony was heard from Debra Draper, Director, Health Care Team, Government Accountability Office; James M. Sullivan, Office of Asset Enterprise Management, Department of Veterans Affairs; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a markup on H.R. 2006, the “VA Procurement Efficiency and Transparency Act”; H.R. 2749, the “Protecting Business

Opportunities for Veterans Act of 2017”; H.R. 2781, the “Ensuring Veteran Enterprise Participation in Strategic Sourcing Act”; and H.R. 3169, the “VA Acquisition Workforce Improvement and Streamlining Act”. H.R. 2006, H.R. 2749, H.R. 2781, and H.R. 3169 were forwarded to the full committee, without amendment.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity held a markup on H.R. 282, the “Military Residency Choice Act”; H.R. 1690, the “Department of Veterans Affairs Bonus Transparency Act”; and H.R. 2772, the “SEA Act”. H.R. 282 and H.R. 2772 were forwarded to the full committee, without amendment. H.R. 1690 was forwarded to the full committee, as amended.

Joint Meetings

U.S. JOB VACANCIES

Joint Economic Committee: Committee concluded a hearing to examine a record six million United States job vacancies, focusing on reasons and remedies, after receiving testimony from Diana Furchtgott-Roth, Manhattan Institute for Policy Research, Washington, D.C.; David T. Harrison, Columbus State Community College, Columbus, Ohio; Scot McLemore, Honda North America, Inc., Marysville, Ohio; and Betsey Stevenson, University of Michigan Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy, Ann Arbor.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, JULY 13, 2017

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: to hold hearings to examine opportunities in global and local markets, specialty crops, and organics, focusing on perspectives for the 2018 Farm Bill, 9:30 a.m., SR-328A.

Committee on Appropriations: business meeting to mark up an original bill entitled, “Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2018”, 10:30 a.m., SD-106.

Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2018 for the Department of Transportation, 2 p.m., SD-192.

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine the attempted coup in Montenegro and malign Russian influence in Europe, 9:30 a.m., SD-G50.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: to hold hearings to examine the Semiannual Monetary Policy Report to the Congress, 9:30 a.m., SD-538.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Space, Science, and Competitiveness, to hold hearings to examine reopening the American frontier, focusing on promoting partnerships between commercial space and the United States government to advance exploration and settlement, 10 a.m., SR-253.

Committee on Finance: to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Kevin K. McAleenan, of Hawaii, to be Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, 10:15 a.m., SD-215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine the 2017 Trafficking in Persons Report, 9:30 a.m., SD-419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Patrick Pizzella, of Virginia, to be Deputy Secretary of Labor, and Marvin Kaplan, of Kansas, and William J. Emanuel, of California, both to be a Member of the National Labor Relations Board, 9:30 a.m., SD-430.

Committee on the Judiciary: business meeting to consider the nominations of John Kenneth Bush, of Kentucky, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit, Kevin Christopher Newsom, of Alabama, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit, Damien Michael Schiff, of California, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims, Timothy J. Kelly, and Trevor N. McFadden, of Virginia, both to be a United States District Judge for the District of Columbia, and John W. Huber, of Utah, to be United States Attorney for the District of Utah, and Jeffrey Bossert Clark, of Virginia, and Beth Ann Williams, of New Jersey, both to be an Assistant Attorney General, all of the Department of Justice, 9:30 a.m., SD-226.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2 p.m., SH-219.

House

Committee on Agriculture, Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities and Risk Management, hearing entitled “The Future of Farming: Technological Innovations, Opportunities, and Challenges for Producers”, 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Appropriations, Full Committee, markup on the Commerce, Justice, Science Appropriations Bill, FY 2018; the Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Bill, FY 2018; and the Report on the Revised Interim Suballocation of the Budget Allocations, FY 2018, 10 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs, markup on the State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Bill, FY 2018, 3 p.m., 2362-A Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies, markup on the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill, FY 2018, 4:30 p.m., 2358-C Rayburn.

Committee on Education and the Workforce, Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education, hearing entitled “Opportunities for State Leadership of Early Childhood Programs”, 10 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Environment, markup on legislation on the Drinking Water System Improvement Act, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, Subcommittee on Capital Markets, Securities, and Investment, hearing entitled “Impact of the DOL Fiduciary Rule on the Capital Markets”, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Subcommittee on Middle East and North Africa, hearing entitled “America’s Interests in the Middle East and North Africa: The President’s FY 2018 Budget Request”, 1 p.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, Subcommittee on Counterterrorism and Intelligence, hearing entitled “The Persistent Threat: al Qaeda’s Evolution and Resilience”, 10 a.m., HVC-210.

Task Force on Denying Terrorists Entry into the United States, hearing entitled “The Terrorist Diaspora: After the Fall of the Caliphate”, 2 p.m., HVC-210.

Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet, hearing entitled “The Impact of Bad Patents on American Businesses”, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Indian, Insular and Alaska Native Affairs, hearing entitled “Comparing 21st Century Trust Land Acquisition with the Intent of the 73rd Congress in Section 5 of the Indian Reorganization Act”, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Small Business, Subcommittee on Contracting and Workforce; and Economic Growth, Tax, and Capital Access, joint hearing entitled “The Puerto Rico Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act: State of Small Business Contracting”, 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations; and Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs, joint hearing entitled “Examining VA’s Processing of Gulf War Illness Claims”, 9:30 a.m., 334 Cannon.

Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled “Maximizing Access and Resources: An Examination of VA Productivity and Efficiency”, 2 p.m., 334 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Tax Policy, hearing on “How Tax Reform Will Help America’s Small Businesses Grow and Create New Jobs”, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

Full Committee, markup on H.R. 3178, the “Medicare Part B Improvement Act of 2017”; H.R. 3168, to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide continued access to specialized Medicare Advantage plans for special needs individuals, and for other purposes; and H.R. 1843, the “Restraining Excessive Seizure of Property through the Exploitation of Civil Forfeiture Tools Act”, 2 p.m., 1100 Longworth.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, Full Committee, markup on the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018, 9 a.m., HVC-304. This hearing will be closed.

Joint Meetings

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: to receive a briefing on energy insecurity in Russia’s periphery, 3:30 p.m., SD-G11.